Amendments to the Claim:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A breeding system for use in an open air environment for a number of animals and comprising

a) means for automatic and electronic registration of data for the individual animals,

b) means for controlled and individually regularly feeding of the animals based on the recorded data of each animal,

c) an open-air field area wherein the means a) and b) are arranged,

d) means for recording the registered data of each animal in a registration unit,

~~e) optionally a facility for slaughtering the animals,~~

~~f) optionally at least one device for containing water, a so-called "mud-hole" optionally connected to a waste treatment plant~~.

2 (original). A breeding system according to claim 1, wherein the open-air field is enclosed by a fence.

3 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1, further comprising means for automatically identifying each of the individual animals.

4 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1, further comprising means for automatically separating and/or isolating an identified animal from one or more of the other animals.

5 (original). A breeding system according to claim 4 wherein the means for separation and/or isolation is integrated with the feeding means.

6 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 further comprising at least one hut for the animals.

7 (original). A breeding system according to claim 6 wherein the hut is movable.

8 (currently amended). A breeding system according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 6 wherein the hut is substantially enclosed.

9 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 6, wherein the hut for the animals is adapted according to the sex, age and number of animals for which the hut is providing shelter.

10 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 wherein the animals are pigs.

11 (original). A breeding system according to claim 10 wherein the pigs are porkers of at least an age of 28 days.

12 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 6, wherein the hut for the animals is a farrowing hut for pigs adapted for farrowing, the farrowing hut comprising at least one sow retainer and at least one piglet shelter.

13 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 6, wherein the hut for the animals is a family hut for pigs adapted for housing at least one sow with piglets of the age up to about 3-8 weeks, the hut being divided into at least two parts, one part allowing the piglets to be separated from another part housing the sow or sows, the separation being by means of e.g. a separating sheet with an opening having such dimensions that the sows, but not the piglets, are prevented from passing through the opening.

14 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 4, wherein the means for feeding the animal is by use of a transponder-feeder and the means for separating and/or isolating the animals comprises an inlet door and an outlet door and optionally a gate between the inlet and outlet doors

preventing the animal from leaving through the inlet door.

15 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1, wherein the means for automatically identifying an individual animal comprises a mark or a label connected to the animal, the mark or label comprising and/or obtaining information which is automatically registered by the registration unit.

16 (original). A breeding system according to claim 15, wherein the means for automatically identifying an individual animal comprises a mark or a label connected to the animal, the mark or label comprising and/or obtaining information which is send to the registration unit.

17 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1, wherein the means for automatically identifying an individual animal comprises a label or a mark fastened on the animal, such as on the ear.

18 (cancelled).

19 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1, wherein the means for controlled feeding of the animal is electronically connected with the means for automatically identifying the individual animal.

20 (original). A breeding system according to claim 19, wherein the means for controlled feeding of the animal automatically provides an identified animal with a specific amount and/or mixture of feed based on the identification of the animal.

21 (original). A breeding system according to claim 20 and comprising means for determining the weight of identified animals, wherein the specific amount and/or mixture of feed is determined in response to the weight of the identified animal.

22 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1, wherein the means for controlled feeding of the animal automatically recognise whether the individual animal is provided with a specific amount of feed within a predetermined period of time.

23 (previously presented). A breeding system according to

claim 1, wherein the means for automatically separating and/or isolating an identified animal from one or more of the other animals is a separation unit comprising an inlet door for an animal entering the unit and means for directing the animal towards one of at least two outlet doors.

24 (original). A breeding system according to claim 23, wherein the means for directing the animal toward one of the outlets doors comprises a turnable fence.

25 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 23, wherein the means for directing the animal toward one of the outlets doors is driven automatically.

26 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 23, wherein the means for directing the animal toward one of the outlets doors is driven automatically based on one or more information concerning weight, body temperature, thickness of the fat layer on the back of the animal, feed consumption and identification of the individual animal.

27 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 4, wherein the means for automatically separating and/or isolating an identified animal from one or more of the other animals, the separation being integrated with the feeding means, is located within the movable hut.

28 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 further comprising one or more means selected from means for measuring the weight of an identified animal, means for controlling the content/degree of subcutaneous fat on selected areas of an identified animal, and means for controlling body temperature of an identified animal.

29 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 further comprising means for registering any possible medical or other treatment with respect to any of dosage, time and type of treatment.

30 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 7, wherein the movable hut is substantially provided with isolated shelter walls or has an insulating property of less than

0.6 W/m^2.

31 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 6, wherein the hut further comprises means for ventilation.

32 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 6, wherein the hut is placed directly on the ground.

33 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1, wherein the animals are sheep.

34 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 comprising a mud-hole arranged on the field so that the animals leaving the shelter will enter the mud-hole on their way to the means for controlled feeding of the animals.

35 (original). A breeding system according to claim 34 wherein the mud-hole has such dimensions that it may contain at least one of said animals and having a design so that said animals are able to enter and leave the mud-hole, the mud-hole being substantially isolated in its lower part from the field with a barrier so as to substantially prevent substances contained in the mud-hole from leaking to the environment.

36 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 comprising a mud-hole with draining means for discharging parts of the contents of the mud-hole, the system further comprising connecting means, such as a pipe or a tube, connected to the draining means for leading the discharged part from the mud-hole.

37 (original). A breeding system according to claim 36 comprising a mud-hole connected to a waste-water treatment system, such as a natural reedbed, wherein the waste-water treatment system is connected to the mud-hole through the draining means for receiving the discharged part from the mud-hole.

38 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 comprising a mud-hole with means for adding liquid to the mud-hole.

39 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 comprising a mud-hole which is movable.

40 (original). A breeding system according to claim 39, wherein the movable mud-hole is placed on the field without removing the field material or digging holes and in such a way that the surface of the field is substantially protected from damage from the mud-hole or from the animals entering the mud-hole.

41 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 2 comprising facilities for slaughtering the animals positioned within or in close proximity to the fenced-in open air field area.

42 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 comprising facilities for slaughtering the animals positioned at a distance to the place where the animals are living so that the time period for transportation of the animals from their living place to the facilities by ordinary transportation means, such as by a truck, does not exceed 30 min. including loading and unloading the animals onto and off the transportation means.

43 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 comprising facilities for slaughtering the animals wherein the facilities comprises means for collecting the waste from the slaughtering facilities.

44 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 further comprising means for detecting and selecting and animal ready for slaughtering.

45 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 1 comprising between 25 and 100.000 animals.

46 (previously presented). A breeding system according to claim 2, wherein the fenced-in field area is no less than 10 square-meter per animal in the system.

47 (previously presented). A mud-hole for use in a breeding system as described in claim 1 having such dimensions so that it may contain at least one of said animals and having a design so that said animals are able to enter and leave the mud-hole, the mud-hole being substantially isolated at a lower part from the

natural environment with a barrier so as to substantially prevent substances contained in the mud-hole from leaking to the environment.

48 (withdrawn - currently amended). An arrangement comprising a breeding system according to claim 1 and, for individual feeding of animals of a herd, further comprising
a plurality of enclosures of a size suitable for comprising one of the animals, each enclosure having an inlet and an outlet and means for selectively switching the inlet and outlet between a for the animals passable state and a non-passable state, each enclosure also having a feeding bowl for containing feed,
container means for containing a supply of feed,
means for leading the feed from the container means to each of said bowls,
a common inlet through which the animals may enter into each of the enclosures and means for selectively allowing animals to pass the common inlet,
means for directing animals from the common inlet to a specified enclosure selected among the plurality of enclosures, and
control means for controlling the operation of the arrangement, said control means comprising the breeding system according to claim 1.

49 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 48 and further comprising means for performing a unique identification of each animal of the herd, the means being arranged so as to allow for identification of an animal before letting it into the arrangement.

50 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 49 wherein the identification means comprises
a plurality of transponders each having a unique identification code, each animal of the herd being equipped with a transponder for individual identification, and
a transceiver for reading the identification codes of the transponders, the transceiver being arranged near the common inlet so as to allow for identification of an animal before

letting it into the arrangement.

51 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 49 and further comprising an inlet enclosure of a size suitable for comprising one of the animals, the common inlet forming the inlet of the inlet enclosure, the inlet enclosure having means for selectively allowing an animal within the enclosure to leave the inlet enclosure and having means for determining at least one of the following characteristics of each identified animal passing the common inlet and for transmitting the at least one characteristic to the control means:

a) the weight of the animal,

b) the skin temperature of the animal measured from the infra red radiation from the animal,

c) the body temperature of the animal measured by means of a sensor mounted on the animal, and

d) the thickness of the fat layer on the back of the animal

52 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 49 and further comprising means for selectively separating identified animals having passed the common inlet to at least one separation enclosure.

53 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 48, wherein the plurality of enclosures are arranged on a platform, the arrangement having means for rotating the platform, switching between the passable state and the non-passable state being provided by the rotational movement of the platform.

54 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 53, wherein the opening defining the inlet of each enclosure also defines the outlet of said enclosure.

55 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 49, wherein the control means can control the amount of and optionally the type of feed supplied to the individual identified animal.

56 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 48 and comprising means for adjusting the amount of feed supplied to the

individual animal according to the temperature and optionally the wind speed the animals are subjected to.

57 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 48, wherein the herd of animals comprises a plurality of porkers.

58 (withdrawn - currently amended). A method ~~for~~ of use ~~in~~ a the breeding system according to claim 1 for feeding porkers of a herd, each porker being uniquely identifiable by means of identification means, comprising the steps of

identifying one of the porkers and transmitting the identification to a control unit,

allowing the porker into a feeding enclosure in which it is the sole porker,

determining an individual amount of feed for each porker by means of the control unit,

feeding each porker the determined individual amount of feed when the porker is present within the feeding enclosure, and

allowing the porker to leave the feeding enclosure,

wherein each step is controlled by means of the control unit.

59 (withdrawn). A method according to claim 58, wherein each porker is equipped with a transponder having a unique identification code and the identification step comprises the step of reading the identification code of the transponder of one of the porkers with a transceiver.

60 (withdrawn). A method according to claim 58 and comprising the step of determining at least one of the following characteristics of each identified porker and store said determined characteristic(s) in storage means of the control unit:

a) the weight of the porker,

b) the skin temperature of the porker measured from the infra red radiation from the animal,

c) the body temperature of the porker measured by means of a sensor mounted on the porker, and

d) the thickness of the fat layer on the back of the porker.

61 (withdrawn). A method according to claim 60, wherein at least the weight of the porker is determined and the amount of feed fed to the individual porker is determined from the weight of said porker.

62 (withdrawn). A method according to claim 58, wherein the amount of feed fed to each porker is adjusted for the air temperature and optionally for the wind speed the porkers are subjected to.

63 (withdrawn). A method according to claim 58 and comprising the steps of

determining whether an identified porker should be separated from the herd by means of the control unit, and

activating separation means by means of the control unit so as to separate said porker into a separation enclosure.

64 (withdrawn). A method according to claim 61, wherein at least a temperature of the identified porker is determined and the separation of the identified porker may be effected in response to the determined temperature of said porker.

65 (withdrawn). A method according to claim 58, wherein the control unit is at least temporarily connected via a data communication network to a remote surveillance system whereby the operation of the control unit may be remotely monitored and at least partially controlled.

66 (cancelled).

67 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 70, wherein the control unit is permanently or temporarily connected over a communication network with a surveillance system from which the function of the system may be surveyed and at least partially controlled.

68 (withdrawn). An arrangement according to claim 67 wherein different persons or institutions have entrance or partially entrance to the communication network.

69 (cancelled).

70 (withdrawn - currently amended). A method for use in an arrangement according to claim 48 for feeding porkers of a herd,

each porker being uniquely identifiable by means of identification means, comprising the steps of

identifying one of the porkers and transmitting the identification to a control unit,

allowing the porker into a feeding enclosure in which it is the sole porker,

determining an individual amount of feed for each porker by means of the control unit,

feeding each porker the determined individual amount of feed when the porker is present within the ~~feeing~~ feeding enclosure, and

allowing the porker to leave the feeding enclosure,

wherein each step is controlled by means of the control unit.

71 (new). The breeding system of claim 1, further comprising

e) a facility for slaughtering the animals.

72 (new). The breeding system of claim 1, further comprising

f) a device for containing water.

73 (new). The breeding system of claim 71, further comprising

f) a device for containing water.

74 (new). The breeding system of claim 72, wherein said device for containing water is connected to a waste treatment plant.

75 (new). A breeding system according to claim 15, wherein the registration unit is activated by the presence of the animal bearing the mark when the animal is located in or is entering feeding means.